

figured are 5.4 and 4.9 mm. long. The animal is more heavily pigmented in some specimens, as in Fig. 9, and the irregular opaque white patches next to the eyes are therefore more conspicuous. In those I observed alive the front corners of the foot were never so strongly auriculate as in the type specimen from Biscayne Bay.

EXPLANATION OF PLATE 5

Figs. 1-5, 10 are from the type specimen, Biscayne Bay. Figs. 6-9, 11, 12 are from Lake Worth, near the south inlet. 1, 2, outlines of living animal; 3, shell of type; 4, early whorls of same, more enlarged; 5, operculum; 6, group of egg capsules; 7, 8, extremes of shape of shell; 9, head; 10, group from middle of radula, with 27th and 40th lateral teeth; 11, living animal; 12, pallial organs as seen through the mantle. Scale lines for figs. 3, 7, 8 = 1 mm.

HODOPOEUS, A FOSSIL ESTRAY

BY H. A. PILSBRY AND T. D. A. COCKERELL

We have received a large helicoid fossil which was found by Miss Bess Peacock in a collection of miscellaneous objects given to the Mt. Vernon Junior High School at Los Angeles. Where it was found could not be ascertained, but very probably it came from New Mexico or Texas and presumably is of Eocene or Paleocene age. The specimen, now No. 16660 ANSP., is a cast in rather hard limestone.

Is it ever advisable to publish a species of unknown provenance? Usually our decision would be adverse; but circumstances may make publication expedient. The species under consideration apparently belongs to the family Camaenidae, a group most copiously developed in the eastern hemisphere, from Japan and China to Australia, but also comprising most of the large helices of tropical America. That they reached the West Indies and South America *via* western North America may be assumed. We would expect to find such large, solid shells preserved as fossils; smaller members of the same general group, such as *Oreohelix*, with a simple lip, have been found from Upper Cretaceous on. This new fossil supplies one of the large

typical Camaenidae, with expanded peristome, which may credibly be in the ancestral line of the American tropical forms, and serve to demonstrate the route of their migration. After Paleocene or Eocene times the large Camaenidae seem to have disappeared from western North America; or at least, later ones have not turned up.

The new genus *Hodopoeus*¹ may be defined provisionally as having a large, regularly coiled, heliciform shell, with umbilicate base, strongly oblique aperture, the peristome with expanded outer and basal margins. In general shape it resembles *Camaena* (*Pseudobba*) *quoyi* (Desh.), of Celebes.

HODOPOEUS CRASSUS, new species. Plate 6, figs. 1, 2.

The large, helicoid cast indicates a depressed shell with moderately convex spire, rounded periphery and rather large umbilicus. External sculpture unknown. The cast shows about 4 whorls (and the shell may have had about 5, the apical whorls being injured). The summit is somewhat flattened. The last whorl descends rather suddenly and strongly in front. Suture apparently deep. The aperture is strongly oblique, rounded, the upper and basal margins converging, the parietal margin short. The outer and basal margins of the lips appear to have been expanded (or possibly reflected?), the upper margin but little if at all expanded. The rather ample umbilicus appears a little expanded behind the columellar lip.

Height 37 mm., greater diameter 59 mm. lesser 51 mm.

The cast clearly shows that the outer lip was somewhat expanded, thus differing from *Orcohelix*. The lip is not known in the large *O. megarche* Ckll. & Hend. (Bull. Amer. Mus. N. H. 31: 230), but the keeled early whorls and shallow suture of that shell probably indicate generic difference from our fossil. Compared with large Recent helices, the shell is not much like the large *Lysinoe ghiesbreghti*. It has rather differently shaped whorls of smaller caliber, and a smaller aperture, its plane more inclined, being bent, as seen in a profile view, much as in *Caracolus caracolla* (L.) or *Isomeria oreas* (Koch). The deflection of the last whorl in front, the size of the aperture and the umbilicus, so far as visible, are much as in *Isomeria oreas*, which however, by its transversely dilated outline and superficial suture, is unlike our fossil.

¹ Ὀδοποιός, a pioneer.